

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor(s): **Ashok Rao**

For (title): **Integrated Drying of Feedstock Feed to Integrated Combined-cycle Gasification Plant**

**1. Type of Application**

This new application is for a(n):

- ☐ Original (37 CFR § 1.53)
- ☐ Design
- ☐ Divisional (37 CFR § 1.60)
- ☐ Continuation (37 CFR § 1.60)
- ☐ Continuation-in-part (37 CFR § 1.53)
- ☒ File Wrapper Continuation (37 CFR § 1.62)

☒ of parent application Serial no. **08/719,683** filed **September 26, 1996**.

**2. Benefit of Prior U.S. Application(s) (35 U.S.C. § 120)**

- ☐ None
- ☒ of co-pending parent application referenced above.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231.

  
ROBERT D. FISH

Dated: August 20, 1997

3. **Filing Papers**

- ☐ Papers Enclosed Which Are
- ☐ Pages of Specification
  - ☐ Pages of Claims
  - ☐ Pages of Abstract
  - ☐ Sheets of drawing
    - ☐ formal
    - ☐ informal
    - ☐ in triplicate

- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of the latest inventor-signed prior application, including a copy of the oath or declaration showing the original signature or an indication it was signed. I hereby verify that the papers are a true copy of the latest signed prior application number \_\_\_\_\_, and further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true' and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

- ☒ Please use all the contents of the prior application file wrapper, including the drawings (if any), as the basis papers for the new application.

- ☒ Please amend the new application by inserting the following sentence at the beginning of the specification:

This application is a ☒ continuation ☐ continuation-in-part ☐ divisional of co-pending application serial no. **08/719,683** filed **September 26, 1996**.

- ☒ Please abandon the parent application at a time when the parent application is pending or when the petition for extension of time or to revive in that application is granted and when this application is granted a filing date so as to make this application copending with said parent application. At the same time please append the words "now abandoned" to the amendment to the specification set forth above.

**4. Declaration or oath and power of attorney**

☐ Enclosed

executed by (check **all** applicable boxes)

☐ inventor(s).

☐ legal representative of inventor(s). 37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43

☐ joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached.

☐ this is the petition by 37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 is also attached. See item 13 below for fee.

☒ Not enclosed.

☐ Application is made by a person authorized under 37 CFR 1.41(c) on behalf of all the above-named inventor(s). The declaration and oath, along with the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) will be filed subsequently.

☒ Is contained in the parent application.

**5. Additional papers enclosed**

☐ An assignment of the invention to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is attached. ☐ Assignment recordal attached.

\_\_\_\_\_ will follow.

☒ Preliminary Amendment

☐ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Form PTO-1449

☐ Small Entity Statement

☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit

☐ Authorization of Attorney(s) to Accept and Follow Instructions from Representative

☐ Special Comments

☐ Other

6. **Inventorship Statement**

The inventorship for all the claims in this application are:

- ☒ the same  
☐ not the same. An explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the **last** claimed invention was made,  
☐ is submitted.  
☐ will be submitted.

7. **Language**

- ☒ English  
☐ non-English  
☐ the attached translation is a verified translation. 37 CFR 1.52(d).

8. **Certified Copy**

Certified copy(ies) of application(s)

_____		
(country)	(appln. no.)	(filed)
_____		
(country)	(appln. no.)	(filed)

from which priority is claimed

- ☐ is(are) attached  
☐ will follow.

9. **Request for International-Type Search (37 CFR 1.104(d))**

- ☐ Please prepare an international-type search report.

10. **Fee Calculation**

	Small Entity. Verified Statement(s) that this is a filing by a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is(are) ____ attached ____ already on file.
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Basic Fees	Filed	Base	Extra	Rate Large	Rate Small	Fee
Utility Patent				\$770.00	\$385.00	\$770.00
Total Claims	14	20	0	\$22.00	\$11.00	\$0.00
Indep. Claims	1	3	0	\$80.00	\$40.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims				\$260.00	\$130.00	\$0.00
Provisional Patent				\$150.00	\$75.00	\$0.00
Design Patent				\$320.00	\$160.00	\$0.00
Subtotal						\$770.00

Extension Fees		Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee
-	one month extension	\$110.00	\$55.00	\$0.00
-	two month extension	\$390.00	\$195.00	\$0.00
-	three month extension	\$930.00	\$465.00	\$0.00
-	four month extension	\$1,470.00	\$735.00	\$0.00
Subtotal				\$0.00

Miscellaneous Fees		Rate	Fee
-	recording assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)(1))	\$40.00	\$0.00
-	fee for international-type search report (37 CFR 1.21(e))	\$40.00	\$0.00
-	fee for petition to make application special	\$130.00	\$0.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous			\$0.00

Totals		
Subtotal Basic Filing Fees From Above		\$770.00
Subtotal Extension Fees		\$0.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous		\$0.00
Total Fees		\$770.00

**11. Fee Payment Being Made At this Time**

X

Enclosed

—

Not Enclosed. No filing fee is to be paid at this time. (This and the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be paid subsequently.)

**12. Method of Payment of Fees**

X

Check no. 4001 in the amount of \$770.00

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Charge Account No. 33770 in the amount of \$770.00.

**13. Authorization to Charge Additional Fees**

X

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Account No. 03-3700.

X

37 CFR 1.16(a) or (g) (filing fees)

X

37 CFR 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

X

37 CFR 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)

X

37 CFR 1.17 (application processing fees)

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37 CFR 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b))

**14. Instructions As To Overpayment**

X

credit Account No 03-3700

—

refund

CROCKETT & FISH

Dated: August 20, 1997

By

  
ROBERT D. FISH

Reg. No. 33,880

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: **Ashok Rao**

Examiner: **Louis J. Casaregola**

Serial No: **CIP of 08/719,683**

Art Unit: **3403**

Filed: **September 26, 1996**

For: **Integrated Drying of Feedstock  
Feed to Integrated Combined-  
cycle Gasification Plant**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter this preliminary amendment into the concurrently filed CIP application.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

6. (Amended) A system for utilizing a moisture containing feedstock as a fuel source, comprising:

- a feedstock drying unit;
- a feedstock gasification unit;
- a feed moving said feedstock from said drying unit to said gasification unit;
- a heating unit;
- a drying medium essentially comprising [a] high pressure nitrogen [inert gas];

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ROBERT D. FISH

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a pathway conducting said drying medium sequentially through said heating unit, said drying unit and said feedstock gasification unit.

7. (Amended) The system of Claim 6 wherein a pathway recycles at least a portion of said nitrogen [inert gas] between said drying unit and said gasification unit.

**REMARKS**

**35 U.S.C. § 102**

In the parent case, claims 6 and 8/6 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Schiffers on the grounds that "inert gas" can be read to include exhaust gases including mostly CO<sub>2</sub> and water vapor. Based on this clarifications, claims 6 and 8/6 are now reworded to expressly claim the "inert gas" as nitrogen. This amendments also resolve the objections with respect to claims 7 and 8/7.

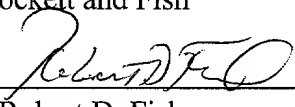
**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-12 are pending in this application. The applicant acknowledges the office having determined that claims 2-4 and 10-12 are deemed to be allowable. Having specifically addressed all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action, the applicant requests allowance of all pending claims. Since this is a final office action, and the examiner and applicant are very close to agreement, it is also requested that the examiner contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Crockett and Fish

Dated: August 20, 1997

By

  
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